

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-07-10
June 19, 2007

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue wastewater discharge permits to the facilities listed in this notice. These permits are issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); ARM 17.30.1001 *et seq.*, Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared draft permits for the facilities listed below. Copies of the draft permits, statements of basis, and environmental assessments are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website www.deq.mt.gov.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: Barretts Minerals, Inc.
8625 Highway 91 South
Dillon, MT 59725

FACILITY NAME: Dillon Plant

FACILITY LOCATION: 8625 Highway 91 South within Section 17, Township 8
South, Range 9 West, Beaverhead County

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: Class I ground water

PERMIT NUMBER: MTX000094

The Barretts Minerals, Inc. Dillon Plant is a talc milling and beneficiation facility. The department proposes renewal of Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System permit number MTX000094, which authorized discharge of boiler blowdown and miscellaneous laboratory wastewater to the Outfall 001 percolation pond. The permit proposes renewal of a standard 500 foot ground water mixing zone along with ground water monitoring at the end of the mixing zone to ensure compliance with the most stringent applicable ground water standards, as well as, effluent flow monitoring and a ground water study at the facility is required

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APPLICANT NAME: City of Laurel Water Treatment Plant

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APPLICANT ADDRESS: P.O. Box 10
Laurel, MT 59044

FACILITY LOCATION: 802 Sewer Plant Road

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0030261

RECEIVING WATER: Yellowstone River

The City of Laurel water treatment plant is a conventional potable water treatment plant utilizing settling, coagulation, flocculation and filtration processes to treat raw surface water from the Yellowstone River to finished drinking water. Bachwash water is pumped to a 1.5 acre settling pond to remove suspended solids and chlorine before it is discharged to the Yellowstone River.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act are established for a particular water quality limited segment, the State is not to issue any new permits or increase permitted discharges under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit Friends of the Wild Swan v. U.S. EPA, et al., CV 97-35-M-DWM, District of Montana, Missoula Division. The Department finds that the issuance of this proposed permit does not conflict with the order because this is not a new or increased source.

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APPLICANT NAME: Montana Tunnels Inc.
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MT 59638

FACILITY NAME: Montana Tunnels Mine

FACILITY LOCATION: Sections 8, 9, 16 and 17, Township 7 North,
Range 4 West, Jefferson County

RECEIVING WATER: Unnamed tributary to Spring Creek

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0028428

The Montana Tunnels Mine is an active open-pit metal mine and flotation mill located approximately 6 miles west of Jefferson City, Montana. The facility employs a flotation mill process that uses cyanide in a separate closed circuit to produces silver, gold, and base metals concentrate from ore extracted from the mine pit. The proposed permit effluent limits for the existing Outfall 001, and

proposed Outfall 002 for pH, include total suspended solids (TSS), Oil and Grease (O&G) Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET), and metals.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary total maximum daily loads under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act are established for a particular water quality limited segment, the State is not to issue any new permits or increase permitted discharges under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit Friends of the Wild Swan v. U.S. EPA, et al., CA 97-35-M-DWM, District of Montana, Missoula Division. The DEQ finds that the issuance of this proposed permit does not conflict with the order because the receiving water is not listed as a water quality limited segment on the 303d list.

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APPLICANT: Town of Sheridan
P.O. Box 78
Sheridan, MT 59749

FACILITY NAME: Town of Sheridan Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: T 4S, R 5W, Section 27, Madison County (Outfall 001)
T 4S, R 5W, Section 20, Madison County (Outfall 002)

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: unnamed man-made ditch to Indian Creek
Outfall 002: unnamed tributary to Leonard Slough

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0022098

This is a renewal of a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MDPES) permit for the Town of Sheridan domestic wastewater treatment facility. At present, the permittee uses a single-cell facultative lagoon for treatment. Discharge is continuous to a man-made ditch in the Indian Creek drainage. Effluent is not disinfected. The permittee is proposing to upgrade to a three-cell aerated lagoon that will offer disinfection of the effluent. Effluent will be land applied from May 1 through September 31. Effluent from the new facility is proposed to go to an unnamed tributary to the Leonard Slough.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary total maximum daily loads under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act are established for a particular water quality limited segment, the State is not to issue any new permits or increase permitted discharges under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit Friends of the Wild Swan v. U.S. EPA, et al., CA 97-35-M-DWM, District of Montana, Missoula Division. The DEQ finds that the issuance of this proposed permit does not conflict with the order because the receiving waters have never been identified as water quality limited

segments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS July 18, 2007.

Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS July 18, 2007 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail Dianne McKittrick at WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov.

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373 and 17.30.1024).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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